

REMARKS


By this Amendment, original claims 1-20 were cancelled, and claims 21-27 were added. New claims 21-27 are claims to a process that include steps of reversibly crosslinking the elastomer. Applicants' Representative thanks the examiner for the courtesies extended during the August 20, 2003 Personal Interview, in which the examiner indicated that such process claims "would overcome the applied prior art..." Support for these new claims can be found variously throughout the specification, for example, at page 84, second paragraph to page 87, line 11. Support for use of the elastomer as an adhesive for bonding two products can be found variously throughout the specification, for example, at page 81, last two lines to page 85.

As discussed during the Personal Interview, new claims 21-27 are outside of the Restriction Requirement of the parent application which addressed only product claims. By this Amendment, all product claims were cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, mooted this restriction.

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable examination and consideration of the application in light of these amendments and remarks is courteously solicited. If the examiner has any comments or suggestions that would place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number below.

Dated: September 22, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 

David T. Nikaido

Registration No.: 22,663

Robert S. Green

Registration No.: 41,800

RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC

1233 20th Street, N.W.

Suite 501

Washington, DC 20036

(202) 955-3750

Attorneys for Applicant

<p>Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 180013 for any such fees; and applicant(s) hereby petition for any needed extension of time.</p>
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